

## CLAIMS

1. A method for communicating a description of a bond between a first entity and a second entity, comprising the steps of:

selecting at least some attributes that are associated with the bond from a plurality of bond attributes;

choosing a value for each of said at least some attributes;

creating said description of said bond by formatting said values for said at least some attributes according to a document type definition; and

communicating said description of said bond between said first entity and said second entity.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said bond attributes include the maturity and redemption.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein said bond attributes includes at least one attribute selected from the group including a coupon type, a settlement date, an ex-dividend date, an accrual type, an amortization rate, a capitalization date, a tax status and a recovery right.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein said bond has a yield and at least some of said at least some attributes relate to said yield of said bond.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein at least some of said at least some of said attributes identify said bond.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein said document type definition conforms to an Extensible Markup Language syntax.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein said bond is a corporate bond.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein said bond is a government bond.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein said bond is an emerging market bond.

10. A method for forming a description of a bond, comprising the steps of:
- selecting at least some attributes that are associated with the bond from a plurality of bond attributes;
  - choosing a value for each of said at least some attributes; and
  - creating said description of said bond by formatting said values for said at least some attributes according to a document type definition.
11. The method of claim 10, further comprising a first entity and a second entity and wherein the method further comprises the step of:
- communicating said description of said bond between said first entity and said second entity.
12. The method of claim 10, wherein said bond attributes include the maturity, redemption, credit quality, interest rate and price.
13. The method of claim 12, wherein said bond attributes includes at least one attribute selected from the group including a coupon type, a settlement date, an ex-dividend date, an accrual type, an amortization rate, a capitalization date, a tax status and a recovery right.
14. The method of claim 10, wherein said bond has a yield and at least some of said at least some attributes relate to said yield of said bond.
15. The method of claim 10, wherein at least some of said at least some of said attributes identify said bond.
16. The method of claim 10, wherein said document type definition conforms to an Extensible Markup Language syntax.
17. The method of claim 10, wherein said bond is a corporate bond.
18. The method of claim 10, wherein said bond is a government bond.

19. The method of claim 10, wherein said bond is an emerging market bond.
20. A system for communicating a description of a bond, comprising:
- a first entity, said first entity selecting at least some attributes that are associated with the bond from a plurality of bond attributes, said first entity choosing a value for each of said at least some attributes and said first entity creating said description of said bond by formatting said values for said at least some attributes according to a document type definition; and
  - a second entity in communications with said first entity;
- wherein when said first entity communicates said description of said bond to said second entity, said second entity interprets said description according to said document type definition.
21. The system of claim 20, wherein said bond attributes include the maturity and redemption.
22. The system of claim 21, wherein said bond attributes includes at least one attribute selected from the group including a coupon type, a settlement date, an ex-dividend date, an accrual type, an amortization rate, a capitalization date, a tax status and a recovery right.
23. The system of claim 20, wherein said bond has a yield and at least some of said at least some attributes relate to said yield of said bond.
24. The system of claim 20, wherein at least some of said at least some of said attributes identify said bond.
25. The system of claim 20, wherein said document type definition conforms to an Extensible Markup Language syntax.
26. The system of claim 20, wherein said bond is a corporate bond.
27. The system of claim 20, wherein said bond is a government bond.
28. The system of claim 20, wherein said bond is an emerging market bond.

29. The system of claim 20, wherein said first entity includes an XML processor for formatting said values for said at least some attributes according to a document type definition.

30. The system of claim 20, wherein said second entity includes an XML processor for interpreting said description according to said document type definition.